

8 wherein the accounting unit has a first entry to indicate a quality of service
9 provided over the packet-based network, and a second entry to indicate mobility
10 management.

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1 2. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the determining, monitoring,
2 and collecting are performed in a first entity, the method further comprising transmitting,
3 from the first entity, the accounting unit to at least another entity.

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1 5. (Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising using an
2 accounting unit having a common format for convenient exchange between entities.

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1 7. (Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein determining the type of
2 service includes determining one of a plurality of service types, wherein collecting the
3 accounting information comprises collecting an additional entry assigned a value to
4 indicate a type of service.

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1 16. (Amended) A method of accounting for services provided over a packet-
2 based network, comprising:

3 communicating a unit of accounting information carrying information
4 regarding usage of the packet-based network by a terminal, the unit of accounting
5 information having a predetermined format capable of being exchanged between a
6 plurality of entities; and

7 assigning values to entries in the unit of accounting information based on
8 usage, the unit including a first entry indicating a quality of service provided over the
9 packet-based network and a second entry containing a network access identifier of the
10 terminal to uniquely identify the terminal.

1 17. (Amended) The method of claim 16, wherein assigning values to entries
2 further includes assigning a value to an additional entry indicating a type of service.

1 21. (Amended) A system capable of being coupled to a packet-based network,
2 comprising:

3 a controller to collect usage information based on a service used by a node
4 on the packet-based network; and

A5 5 a storage device containing an accounting unit in which the usage
6 information is collected, the accounting unit including a plurality of entries to identify
7 usage elements from which accounting may be derived, the entries comprising a first
8 entry to indicate a quality of service used by the node and a second entry to indicate
9 usage of mobility management.

A6 1 24. (Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the entries of the accounting
2 unit further comprise entries indicating elements used by a mobile node, including
3 mobility management, usage of a radio interface, and usage of a visited network.

1 26. (Amended) The system of claim 21, wherein the accounting unit is
2 according to a predetermined format, the controller to further communicate the
3 accounting unit to another entity.

1 27. (Amended) The system of claim 21, further comprising:
2 an accounting processor adapted to receive accounting units from at least
3 one other entity.

1 29. (Amended) An article including one or more machine-readable storage
2 media containing instructions for accounting for services used on a packet-based data
3 network, the instructions when executed causing a system to:
4 determine usage elements associated with each service, the usage elements
5 including a service type, amount of data communicated, and mobility management; and
6 collect accounting units each including entries identifying the usage
7 elements.

1 30. (Amended) The article of claim 29, wherein the one or more storage
2 media contain instructions that when executed cause the system to further communicate
3 the accounting units to another entity.

1 31. (Amended) A computer data signal embodied in a carrier wave comprising
2 one or more code segments containing instructions for accounting for services used on a
3 packet-based data network, the instructions when executed causing a system to:

4 receive accounting units from at least another entity, each accounting unit
5 containing a first entry identifying a quality of service, a second entry identifying a
6 terminal the accounting unit is associated with, and a third entry indicating usage of
7 mobility management;

8 determine, from each accounting unit, usage of a service on the packet-
9 based network; and

10 charge at least a subscriber for the usage of the service.

1 32. (Amended) A storage device for storing data for access by one or more
2 software routines being executed on a system, comprising:

3 a data structure stored in the storage device and including a plurality of
4 entries, the entries including a first field indicating a quality of service provided over a
5 packet-based network, a second field indicating if the service is chargeable, and a third
6 field including an identifier identifying a node using the service.

Add the following claims:

1 34. (New) The method of claim 17, wherein assigning a value to the
2 additional entry comprises assigning one of plural values corresponding to plural types of
3 service.

1 35. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the plural types of service
2 comprise real-time communications and at least another type of service.

1 36. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein communicating the unit of
2 accounting information comprises communicating a traffic matrix segment having a
3 header and plural rows, each row containing accounting information associated with a
4 session having a given time duration.

1 37. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein assigning values to entries further
2 includes assigning values to additional entries containing source and destination network
3 addresses.

1 38. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising monitoring usage of
2 services on the packet-based network with an accounting meter, wherein assigning values
3 to the entries is performed by the accounting meter.

1 39. (New) The article of claim 29, wherein the usage elements further
2 comprise quality of service, usage of air interface, and a network access identifier.